Raiyats who have contributed to the repair of minor tanks should be shown some concession with regard to the use of unoccupied lands under them.

A special allotment of 5 lakhs of rupees may be made every year for the repair of minor tanks.

2. The repair and restoration of all feeders to tanks should be undertaken, as large expenditure on the repair of tanks is otherwise useless.

The Public Works Department now repairs only major tanks and not the main channels from those tanks which are required to be repaired entirely by the raiyats. As the main channels of several major tanks have been lying in disrepair for several years, these channels may be brought up to order by the Public Works Department and kept under proper supervision to ensure their annual maintenance work being carried on.

3. The scheme for entrusting the repair and maintenance of village tanks to Village Panchayets may be brought into force early.

Reply of Government.—These representations will be noted for consideration along with the Village Tank Panchayet Bill.

SUBJECT No. 86.

System of voluntary contributions.

Messrs. A. Narasimhia, Shanbhog Ramiah, Malvalli Taluk; Shamanna Udupa, Shimoga District Board and C. Nagappa, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The system of voluntary contributions is detrimental to the execution of many useful works. It may therefore be done away with. Where a certain percentage of the raiyats, say two-thirds of those holding lands that are irrigated by a tank, agree to pay contribution, the recovery of contribution from the others should be made compulsory. The proportion may also be fixed, if possible, entirely with reference to the extent of the lands under the tank and not with reference to the number of individual holders. The repairs of several minor tanks have been at a stand-still as some raiyats have not paid up their contributions. The result has been prejudicial to the interests of cultivation. It is therefore prayed that the repairs of these tanks may be done at Government cost, and the raiyats' share subsequently recovered as a revenue demand.

Reply of Government.—The question whether it is necessary to introduce legislation in the matter will be noted for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 87.

Repair of damage to lands caused by the breach of channel bunds.

Mr. B. Kesava Iyengar, Belur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Owing to the breach of channel bunds, valuable lands of raiyats situated under them suffer much damage. In accordance with the channel rules such damage may be repaired out of the allotments made by Government for the repairs of such channels.